

REMARKS

Claims 17-34 are all the claims presently under examination in this application. Claims 1-16 stand withdrawn from consideration, in accord with the February 2, 2007, response to the Restriction Requirement of January 25, 2007. By this amendment, claims 17-18, 25-26, and 33-34 are amended. The amendments introduce no new matter.

It is noted that claim amendments, if any, are made only to assure grammatical and idiomatic English and improved form under United States practice, and are not made to distinguish the invention over the prior art or narrow the claims. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 21-24 and 29-32 would be **allowable** if re-written in independent form. However, for at least the reasons discussed below, Applicant submits that all claims herein are patentable.

Claims 17-20 and 25-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Claims 33-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claims 17-18, 25-26, and 33-34 are amended in accord with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicant submits that all claims herein recite patentable subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 17-20, 25-28, and 33-34.

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Attorney Docket No. 03-074692 (YAN.042)

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 17-34, all the claims presently under examination in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: _____

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Donald A. DiPaula, Esq.

Donald A. DiPaula, Esq.
Registration No. 58,115

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Registration No. 34,386

McGinn Intellectual Property Law Group, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254